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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,051	03/02/2004	Victor ChiSiang Choo	STL11375	2836

27365 7590 08/15/2007
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EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/15/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/791,051

Applicant(s)

CHOO ET AL.

Examiner

Paul D. Kim

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-16 and 21-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/2/07.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is a response to the restriction requirement filed on 6/1/2007.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of Species A, claims 14-16 and new claims 21-33, in the reply filed on 6/1/2007 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. Claims 17-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 6/1/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 14-16 and 21-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ng (US PAT. 7,215,509).

Ng teaches a process of clamping storage media comprising steps of: providing a clamp (200) having an inverted spring portion (146) as shown in Fig. 7; and supplying a clamping force (as shown in the item, 190 as shown in Fig. 8) to the inverted spring portion to snap fit the inverted spring portion into a groove of a clamping interface (138) as shown in Fig. 9 (see also col. 7, lines 13-52).

As per claim 15 the inverted spring portion is formed on an inner portion of the clamp and the inner portion of the clamp is biased to snap fit the inverted spring portion into the groove as shown in Fig. 9.

As per claim 16 the clamping interface includes a spindle portion rotatable relative to a hub and at least one disc (110) is assembled relative to the spindle portion prior to supplying the force to install the clamp as shown in Figs. 4-9.

As per claims 21 and 29 an outward force (194) is supplied to an inner portion of the clamp prior to supplying the clamping force to install the clamp over a flange (top portion) of the clamping interface as shown in Figs. 8 and 9.

As per claim 22 an inner portion and an outer portion of the clamp are engaged and positioned proximate to the clamping portion interface prior to supplying the clamping force to snap fit the inverted spring portion into the groove of the clamping interface as shown in Fig. 4.

As per claim 23 an inner portion of the clamp is engaged along a sloped surface of an assembly tool (192) to bias the inverted spring portion of the clamp outwardly prior to supplying the clamping force as shown in Fig. 7.

As per claim 24 the assembly tool is moved toward the clamping interface prior to supplying the clamping force as shown in Figs. 7 and 8.

As per claim 25 the clamp includes a plurality of tabs (154) spaced about an inner circumference of the clamp and the assembly tool engages one or more of the plurality of tabs to bias the inverted spring portion of the clamp outwardly to install the clamp over a flange of the clamping interface as shown in Fig. 8.

As per claim 26 the clamping force is supplied while inner and outer tools engages the inner and outer portions of the clamp as shown in Fig. 8.

As per claims 27 and 31 the clamping interface is formed on a spindle assembly (108 as shown in Fig. 1) and one or more discs on the spindle motors prior to supplying the clamping force as shown in Figs. 4-9.

As per claim 30 the outer force is supplied via an assembly tool and the outward force is released following application of the clamping force so that the disc clamp force engages a flange of the spindly assembly as show in Fig. 9.

As per claim 33 the clamp is snap fitting into the groove of the spindle assembly having a surface recessed below the ledge surface of the spindle assembly as shown in Fig. 9.

Conclusion

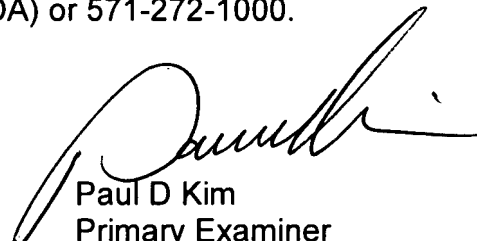
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565.

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The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday between 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Paul D Kim
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3729